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• ANNIVERSARY •

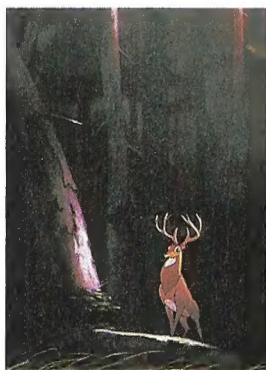
Disney's  
THE MAGIC OF  
**BAMBI**



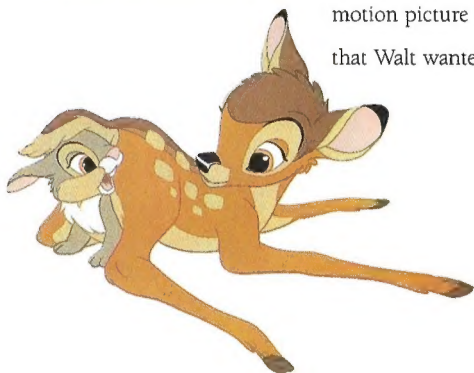
COMMEMORATIVE BOOKLET

*“When I read the [Felix Salten] book, I got excited about the possibilities about animals, what we could do with them.”*

*—Walt Disney*



Walt Disney had expected to make *Bambi* his second animated feature, but as pre-production work began, he realized that this film would require special handling. A different approach to all the usual elements of animated filmmaking (story-line, character animation, music, and background art) was required in order to make *Bambi* that very special motion picture experience that Walt wanted it to be.



mbi



*"I welcome the  
opportunity to break  
away from the  
traditional way  
of doing things."*

*—Walt Disney*



*“There is the chance  
for some beautiful  
stuff with these  
changing seasons.”*

*—Walt Disney*



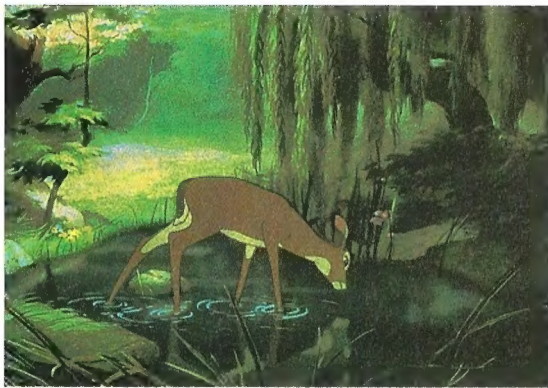


After exploring various visual treatments for the forest settings, it was the watercolor concept paintings of Walt Disney Studio artist Tyrus Wong that captured the perfect look for the film. His paintings contained enough detail to make the forest world believable, but were impressionistic enough to capture the poetical and lyrical feel that matched the film's musical and storytelling elements.

***“That’s our medium – putting imagination into the life of the forest.”***

***–Walt Disney***





*“In their mannerisms – in their action – it should all be based on certain human things.”*

*–Walt Disney*

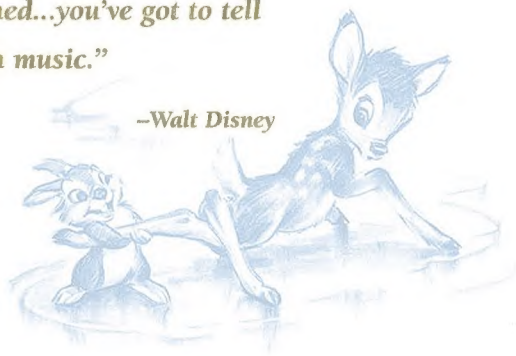


In order for the audience to share Bambi's sense of wonder as life in the forest unfolds before him, more believable animation of the forest animals than had ever been achieved before was necessary. Animators attended classes on animal anatomy and movement, and a pair of live deer, named Bambi and Faline, were kept on the Studio lot for the animators to study.



*“The way this picture is designed...you’ve got to tell it with music.”*

*—Walt Disney*



As the animators perfected their characters, the film’s storyline changed to fit the appeal of the emerging personalities. Thumper’s role kept expanding as he became Bambi’s best childhood friend, helping the young fawn

discover the wonders of the world around him. And Flower the skunk won over moviegoers’ hearts with his charming performance. The believable characters and their appealing personalities were what finally defined the film.

*“Those personalities are pure gold.”*

*—Walt Disney*







Whether alerting audiences to Man's threatening presence, underscoring the pounding excitement of the arrival of the stags, or just reflecting the carefree abandon of Bambi and Thumper playing on the ice, *Bambi's* great musical score was vital in forwarding the story, defining character, and creating moods.

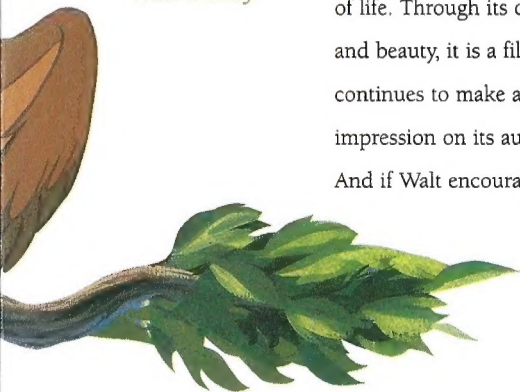
*"It will add to the picture's greatness if you do have a marvelous musical score."*

*—Walt Disney*



***“It’s a story that’s  
going to have a  
tremendous  
amount of appeal.”***

***—Walt Disney***



After five years of dedication and care, *Bambi* emerged as a film filled with wonder, love, and belief in the continuation of life. Through its drama and beauty, it is a film that continues to make a lasting impression on its audience. And if Walt encouraged and

demanding of his creative teams greater heights than they had ever achieved, he could also turn to those same people, visibly moved, and say,

***“Thanks, fellows, that’s great stuff.”***

Discover more beautiful artwork from *Bambi* in *Walt Disney’s Bambi—The Sketchbook Series* available from Hyperion at your local bookstore.

Some artwork selected for this booklet has been provided courtesy of the MouseWorks *Bambi Classic Storybook*.



"I was lucky enough to grow up around the Disney Studio lot and to watch the artists making some of the greatest films ever created. Now, a whole new generation can join in the fun and see the magic unfold in this collectible commemorative booklet, while watching one of Disney's most timeless classics on video."

Roy E. Disney

"Little April Shower"  
Music by Frank Churchill Lyrics by Larry Morey  
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